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May 1974

Summary of Comments by DCI at USIB Committee Meetings

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX)
13 December 1973

Mr. Colby paid a brief visit to COMIREX during this meeting. Mr. Colby expressed interest in the work of COMIREX, noting he has been aware of the good work the Committee has been doing over the years in putting together the community's requirements for some of the very fancy collection systems we have. He commented the machinery is rather awesome to him but it works very well in that when he drops a requirement into it, he gets the desired product. Mr. Colby recognizes the enormous pressure demands the different consumers place on the Committee and he appreciates the kind of work the members have been doing. He expects to continue to turn to COMIREX with even harder problems in the future. Mr. Colby concluded his remarks by thanking COMIREX for its past work, and expressing confidence the Committee will continue to respond to the ever-expanding needs of the intelligence community.

Critical Collection Problems Committee (CCPC)
12 February 1974

See Attachment

Economic Intelligence Committee (EIC)

EIC has no scheduled meetings planned at this time.

Guided Missile and Astronautics Intelligence Committee (GMAIC)
18 December 1973

Mr. Colby spoke of the need for quality and continuity within the intelligence community. He extended his personal appreciation for the Committee's efforts and emphasized their importance in helping to close the scientific intelligence loop.



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Summary of Comments by DCI at USIB Committee Meetings

Human Sources Committee (HSC)

11 December 1973

After introductions, Mr. Colby talked briefly about the importance of human sources collection and about the need for mechanisms to insure cooperation and coordination among collectors. He stated that there appeared to be good reason to believe that the life of the HSC would be extended beyond its initial one-year mandate.

Intelligence Information Handling Committee (IHC)

24 April 1974

See Attachment

Interagency Clandestine Collection Priorities Committee (IPC)

31 October 1973

During his brief visit the DCI expressed appreciation for the useful work being done by the Committee in its formulation of the IPC List. In addition he discussed the need and importance for closer interaction among the various Intelligence Community Committees, the NIOs, and other organizations. He stated that the structure of USIB Committees is still under study but that final decisions have not yet been made.

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Summary of Comments by DCI at USIB Committee Meetings

Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee (JAEIC)

11 December 1973

The Chairman, USIB commented on the importance of the pooling of information by members of the intelligence community and of the clear identification of differences in interpretation. He called on the community to sharpen up, rather than cover up, legitimate differences and he observed that the Committee was an example of how he hoped to see the community function.

Scientific Intelligence Committee (SIC)

10 January 1974

The DCI met briefly with the Committee. He commented on the continuing need for interagency groups such as the SIC, the role of the NIOs, and the necessity for insuring that disagreements on substantive matters within the community are surfaced.

Security Committee

18 December 1973

Mr. Colby thanked the Chairman and Members for their support in helping the Board and himself to protect intelligence sources and methods by their recommendations and counsel.

SIGINT Committee

7 December 1973

See Attachment

Technical Surveillance Countermeasures Committee (TSCC)

22 February 1974

The Director expressed his appreciation for the past work of the Committee, commenting that it had been one of the more effective committees and had contributed measurably to the protection of our national security. In closing, he exhorted the Committee to continue its good work.

Summary of Comments by DCI at USIB Committee Meetings

Watch Committee

12 December 1973

I am certainly pleased to have this opportunity to meet all of you and rather surprised at the size of the group. These meetings are valuable in helping us to keep on top of the warning problem and I want to compliment you on the splendid job you are doing. I realize that not all of the discussion gets into the final report, but the exchange of views helps to clear the air in order to focus on the heart of the problem and that is good. Thank you all for coming and keep up the good work.

Ad Hoc Committee

10 December 1973

Mr. Colby commented that he felt this kind of Committee was a good mechanism to deal with their subject as it utilized senior people who could provide the necessary guidance in requirements and priorities.

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 and the outline for the CCPC study of Intelligence/Activities in and from [redacted] handed out to the members.

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2. Discussion with the DCI

a. The Director of Central Intelligence, Mr. William E. Colby, joined the Committee and made a few introductory remarks. He stated that he had been aware through the years of the useful and important work of the Committee. He gave an explanation of the sequence of the establishment of the National Intelligence Officers (NIOs) and the formulation of the Key Intelligence Questions (KIQs). With regard to the latter, he stated that the focus is on the substance of the intelligence questions. He feels that in order to get an indication of whether or not the taxpayer is getting the most out of his dollar we must look at the substance of what we need and how well we are fulfilling it. The Key Intelligence Questions are a means by which we may determine this. He hopes that the NIOs can get at the bureaucracy through the working level--not just through the chain of command. He, nonetheless, feels we need the committee structure. He stated that he finds USIB a most useful forum; he thinks it is now proceeding along more informal lines than previously and that the free exchange of ideas at Board meetings is increasing.

b. He specifically referred to the role which the CCPC might play in the "new look" at intelligence. Mr. Colby stated that it would be a little difficult to come up with specific topics for committee examination at this time without some thought being given to the subject. He cited, however, as an example of the types of things which should be looked into the adjustments to the draw-down in Indochina. It is essential, he pointed out, that we focus on the hard targets and that we use as normal and cheap a machinery as possible. Again the highest priority targets are [redacted]

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3. Key Intelligence Questions

Following Mr. Colby's departure at approximately 10:20, considerable discussion ensued concerning the Key Intelligence Questions and the methodology which might be used to allocate them to collectors and to evaluate results. Discussion was centered on the NIO structure and its relationship with the intelligence community and the USIB Committees.

Summary of Comments by Mr. Colby (DCI)
and [] (SA/DCI) at IHC Meeting
24 April 1974

1. Mr. Colby made the opening comments, lending his support to the reactivation of the IHC. He said that information handling technology will no doubt continue to develop at least as rapidly during the 1970's as during the 1960's. Thus, the future impact of information processing capabilities on how the intelligence community does its business and the degree of success it achieves will be very great. He went on to say that, although in the past decade the Collection function has tended to dominate the intelligence process, in the next decade the Processing and Production functions may well dominate. Mr. Colby noted that an information explosion has already taken place, but now we are on the verge of a technology explosion which will lead to new methods of analysis and forecasting and to new ways of rapid coordination and more effective presentation of information. He said intelligence should lead in putting advancing information technology at the service of users. He cautioned that the human aspects of the changes which take place must be considered and provided for. He informed the Committee that he has asked [] to concentrate on new ways to package and present information in order to increase its effectiveness with the users. He urged the Committee to see that systems are designed for the people who will use them and that people be trained to use them.

2. [] SA/DCI outlined his area of concern and his progress to date, noting that he is just getting started in his new assignment for the DCI. He is investigating new ways of presenting intelligence information within the community and, therefore, he is interested in the nature of user needs; the form, format and style of information; hardware and software aids in handling information; and new methodologies of intelligence production. He told the Committee he has made an initial survey of DoD, State, the White House Situation Room, CIA, etc. during the past month covering:

--Community information handling systems which supply facts to the analysts.
("Mr. Colby wants alternatives to ink on paper.");

--New methodologies for analysts; and

--New ways to present information.

He said he has prepared a list of some 16 problems (e.g., Indications and Warning, Crisis Situations, Military Economic Intelligence, etc.) and another list of some methodologies of analysis (e.g., [redacted])

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[redacted] He intends, he said, to try to demonstrate the usefulness of new methods for intelligence analysis and presentation. He indicated that he needs as input to his efforts the update of the IHC Inventory of Systems, identified in the IHC meeting agenda. He said this Inventory will serve, also, to define candidate systems for eventual networking. He expects to discover latent capabilities and demonstrate their usefulness for use by analysts and decision makers. A paper he is writing for the DCI will contain his findings to date, and copies will be provided IHC members if the DCI approves this approach.

Prepared by: IHC Support Staff
3 May 1974

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USIB-SC-5. /100
10 December 1973
(294th Meeting)

DCI Visit to SIGINT Committee

1. Mr. Colby visited the SIGINT Committee to express his appreciation and enthusiasm for the work done by the members. He said that he had read studies and deliberated over recommendations made by the committee and recognized that it was a complicated field. He was concerned about the relationship of requirements to cost and how we can do our job faced with manpower reductions. He said he appreciated the energy and efforts of the committee in submitting its conclusions to these complex problems and looked to the committee to continue its fine work. Mr. Colby requested that dissents and differences of opinion be clearly identified in SIGINT Committee product when they exist.

2. The Executive Secretary asked Mr. Colby if he wished to comment on the relationship of IRAC and USIB and specifically how the SIGINT Committee can contribute to resource questions. Mr. Colby responded that the tendency within the community had been to keep substance, programs and resources in three separate categories. To make substantive judgments resource information was required, conversely to make resource decisions one also needed to appreciate the substantive requirements. He described the NIO structure as a means of assisting in the examination of resources and substantive issues. He believed it was also important to relate resources and substantive requirements at the working level and was sure that committees like the SIGINT Committee would be particularly helpful in bringing resources and substantive considerations together. Mr. Colby said that he saw a gradual, closer relationship taking place between the USIB and IRAC. He noted that he had invited [] to attend USIB and that the USIB and IRAC Secretariats had been combined into one office. Eventually he hoped that we could all work at the substance, programs and resources as one package.

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4. [] observed that as a collector he must look at the requirements in terms of five-year planning. The KIQ's on the other hand seemed to be for more current short term planning. Mr. Colby said that this was a good comment and criticism of the KIQ's but to do otherwise would make the KIQ's too general. He said that perhaps the KIQ's could be phrased in such a way to have a general category of interest with specific sub-headings. [] observed that this problem may surface during the post-audit which would help to identify the long range projection needs. Mr. Colby said that this could probably be the case noting the community may not be able to respond to a particular subject within one year because it may take three years to build up a system to satisfy the need. [] observed that this kind of situation is particularly true within SIGINT where long lead times are often required.

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5. On behalf of the committee the Chairman thanked Mr. Colby for his visit and comments.

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Remarks:

As you know the DCI has visited almost every USIB committee during the past eight months. We prepared a summary of comments derived from committee minutes by the DCI at these committee meetings. They are forwarded to you as a matter of possible interest.

cc: AD/DCI/IC
 Director, Coordination Staff/
 Secretariat